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University Hospital, Geelong
Emergency Medicine
Trial Fellowship Exam
Short Answer Questions (SAQ)
Week 26

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATE

1. Answer each question in the space provided in this question paper.
2. Do not write your name on this question paper.
3. Enter your examination number in the space below.
4. Cross out any errors completely.
5. Do not begin the exam until instructed to do so.
6. Do not take examination paper or materials from this room.
7. The booklet binder may be removed during the exam.

QUESTION & ANSWER
BOOKLET

Question 1 (18 marks)

A 27 year old woman presents to your emergency department with left calf pain for the last 2 days. She underwent a left knee arthroscopy 10 days ago. She is otherwise healthy and takes no medications.

- a. List four (4) features on examination that would increase your suspicion for pulmonary embolism. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- b. List four (4) positive ECG findings that would support the diagnosis of Pulmonary Embolism. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Question 1 (continued)

- c. List four (4) positive CXR findings that would support the diagnosis of Pulmonary Embolism. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- d. State two (2) advantages in the performance of a CTPA versus a VQ scan for this patient. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

Question 1 (continued)

e. State four (4) indications for thrombolysis for Pulmonary embolism. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Question 2 (12 marks)

An 8 month old boy presents with 4/24 of distress. You make a diagnosis of acute, suppurative otitis media.

a. List four (4) indications for immediate antibiotic treatment for this patient. (4 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

b. Other than tympanic membrane perforation, list four (4) potential complications of acute, suppurative otitis media. (4 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Question 2 (continued)

c. List four (4) actions that you would take in the setting of suppurative, tympanic membrane perforation. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Question 3 (12 marks)

A 3 year old boy presents with sudden onset stridor.

2 neck xrays are taken- refer to the prop booklet page 2.

a. What is the diagnosis based on these xrays? (1 mark)

b. State three (3) abnormal findings shown in these Xrays that support this diagnosis. (3 marks)

1.

2.

3.

c. State two (2) important relevant negative finding on these xrays. (2 marks)

1.

2.

Question 3 (continued)

- d. What is the role of steroids in this condition? State three (3) points in your answer. (3 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

The patient deteriorates and requires intubation.

- e. List three (3) specific preparations that you would make prior to intubation for this patient. (3 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Question 4 (12 marks)

It is 2100 hrs in your urban district ED. An 18 year old man presents with left shoulder pain, sustained in an accidental fall less than 1 hour ago. After complete history and examination, he has an isolated shoulder injury. You suspect a shoulder dislocation.

- a. Other than confirmation of the dislocation, state two (2) pros of pre-reduction x-rays in this setting. (2 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

- b. State three (3) cons of pre-reduction x-rays in this setting. (3 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Question 4 (continued)

You opt for pre-reduction xrays.

Two xrays are shown in the prop booklet- refer page 3.

- c. State the diagnosis based on these xrays. (1 mark)

- d. State one (1) commonly associated complication of this diagnosis. (1 mark)

Following your specific treatment, you deem that the patient may be suitable for discharge.

- e. State five (5) considerations prior to your discharge of this patient. (5 marks)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Question 5 (12 marks)

A 26 year old woman presents with an unconscious collapse.
She appears unwell and significantly underweight.
Her relevant vital signs are:

GCS	15	
BP	105/50	mmHg
RR	20	bpm
Temperature	36.8	°C

An ECG is taken- refer to the prop booklet page 4.

a. State two (2) abnormal ECG findings. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

b. List four (4) medications that may lead to these ECG changes. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Question 5 (continued)

Whilst you are assessing the patient, she loses consciousness and loses her output.
She is moved to a resuscitation cubicle with full external monitoring applied.
ACLS is commenced.

A rhythm strip is taken- refer to the prop booklet page 5.

c. List six (6) immediate treatments that may be indicated for this patient. (6 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Question 6 (12 marks)

A 67 year-old woman who lives independently has been brought in after being found by her daughter on the floor of her shower. It appears that she has been there all night. She was well the day before.

Initial observations:

BP	70/40	mmHg
RR	6	/min
GCS	7/15	(E-1 V-2 M-4)
Temperature	27° C	(aural)
SaO ₂	95%.	8L by Hudson mask

a. List four (4) positive ECG findings that you may expect at this stage. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Question 6 (continued)

b. List four (4) methods that you would use to rewarm this patient. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

c. Other than for airway protection, state two (2) pros for intubating this patient. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

d. State two (2) cons for intubating this patient. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

Question 7 (12 marks)

A 67 year-old man presents to the ED with 12 hours of severe upper abdominal pain, fever, nausea and vomiting. He appears jaundiced.

Initial assessment:

He is exquisitely tender and guarded in his epigastrium and right upper quadrant.

His vital signs are:

BP	110/60	mmHg
HR	90	bpm
RR	22	bpm
Temperature	38.2	°C

a. Other than pancreatitis, list three (3) likely differential diagnoses. (3 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Initial investigations are taken- refer to the prop booklet page 6.

b. State three (3) key interpretation facts with respect to these results. (3 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Question 7 (continued)

- c. List four (4) factors of this patient's presentations that predict severe disease. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- e. List two (2) limitations for the use of Ranson's criteria. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

Question 8 (12 marks)

You are the supervising emergency physician in a suburban emergency department. The Triage Nurse brings to your attention a distressed 16 year old girl he has just triaged. She is requesting the “morning after pill”. You attend the patient. She reports that she was sexually assaulted the previous day by a male acquaintance.

- a. List six (6) historical factors that are of key importance in your risk assessment. (6 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Question 8 (Continued)

- b. List four (4) issues with respect to emergency contraception for this patient. (4 marks)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- c. List two (2) circumstances under which you would prescribe sexually transmitted infection prophylaxis immediately for this patient. (2 marks)

1. _____
2. _____

Question 9 (18 marks)

A 35 year old woman is triaged into a monitored cubicle in your ED after taking an overdose of her mother's 'heart tablets'. It is confirmed that she has taken 15 x 240mg sustained release verapamil, 2 hours ago.

a. State three (3) historical factors that are of key importance. (3 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

b. What is your risk assessment of this overdose? State three (3) points in your answer. (3 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Question 9 (continued)

c. What is the mainstay of therapy for this patient? (1 mark)

d. What is the indication for the commencement of this therapy? (1 mark)

e. What other therapy is effective as an antidote? (1 mark)

Soon after your review, her observations are:

BP	120/40	mmHg
Pulse rate	80	/min
RR	10	/min
O2sats	97%	RA
GCS	9	(E3, V3, M3)

f. What is your risk assessment now? State two (2) points in your answer. (2 marks)

1.

2.

g. What is the role of charcoal for this patient? State three (3) points in your answer. (3 marks)

1.

2.

3.

Question 9 (continued)

- h. List three (3) other treatment modalities that may be utilised in the event of failure to respond to the treatments already stated. (3 marks)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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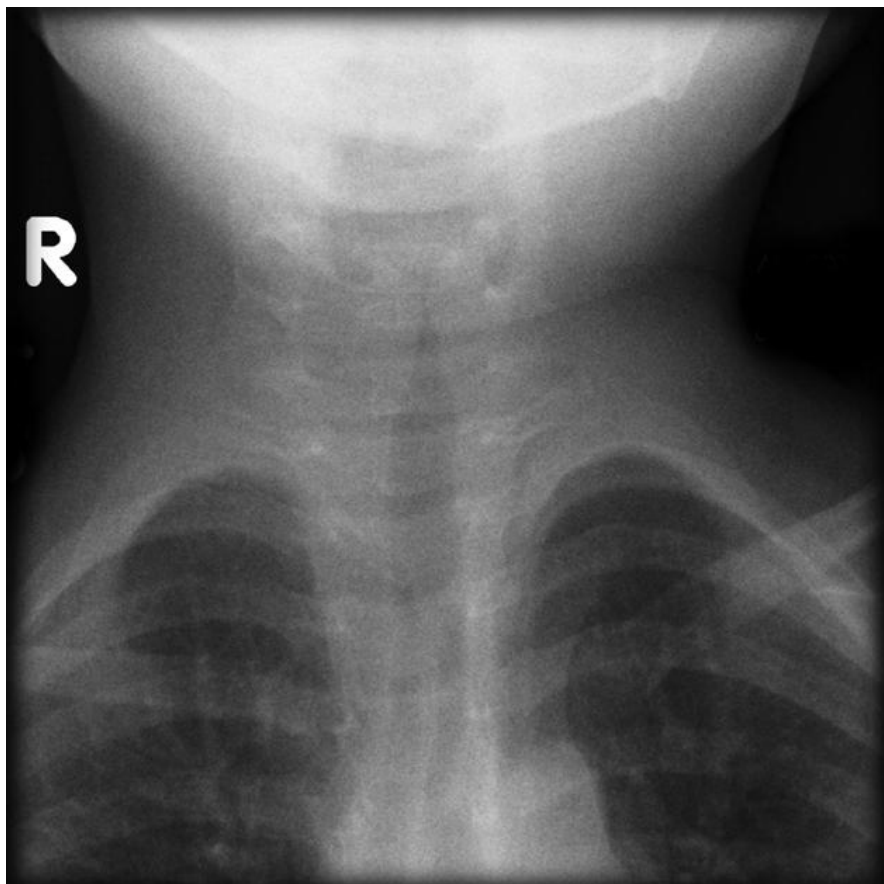
PROP BOOKLET

Question 3

Xray 1

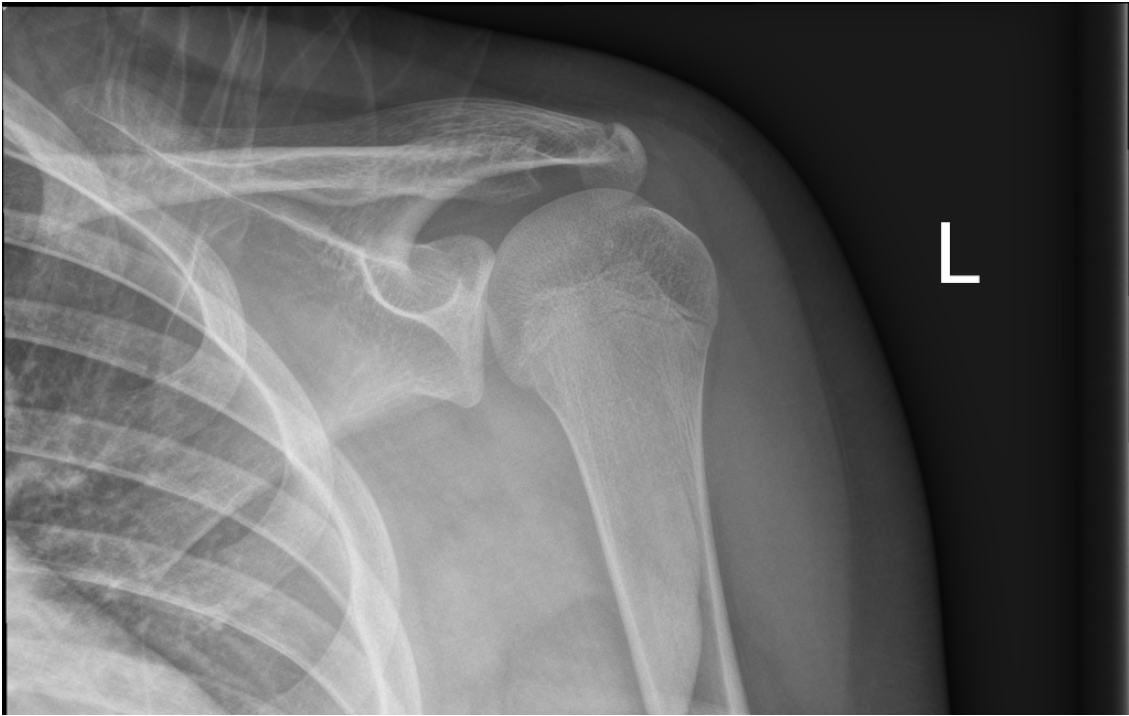


Xray 2

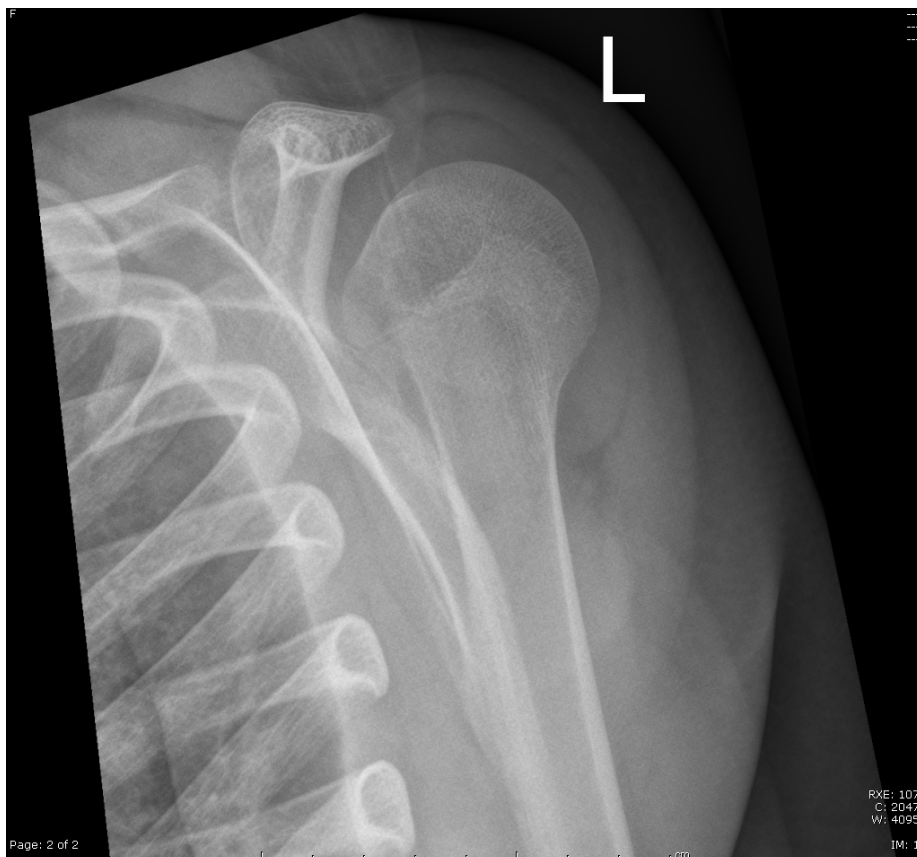


Question 4

Xray 1

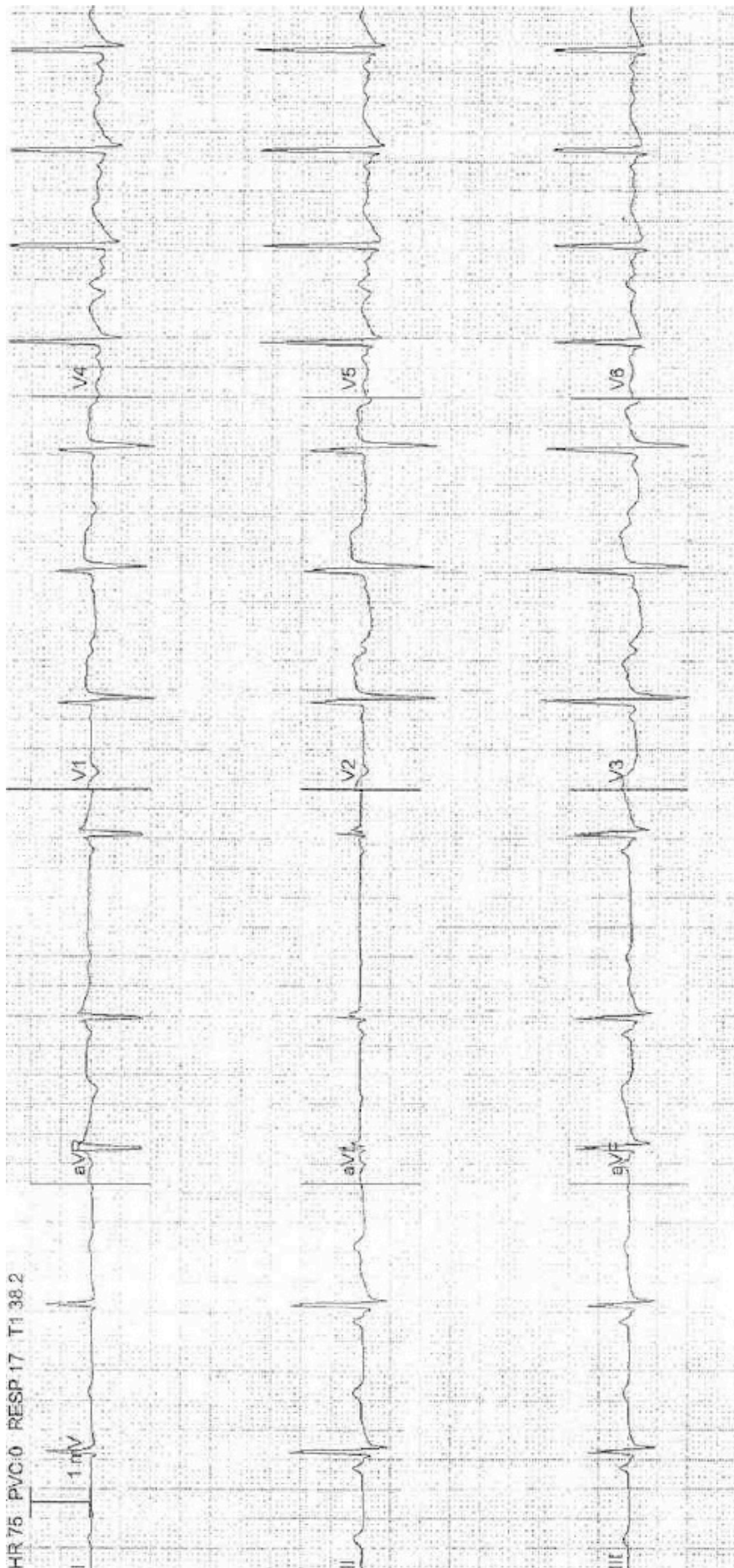


Xray 2



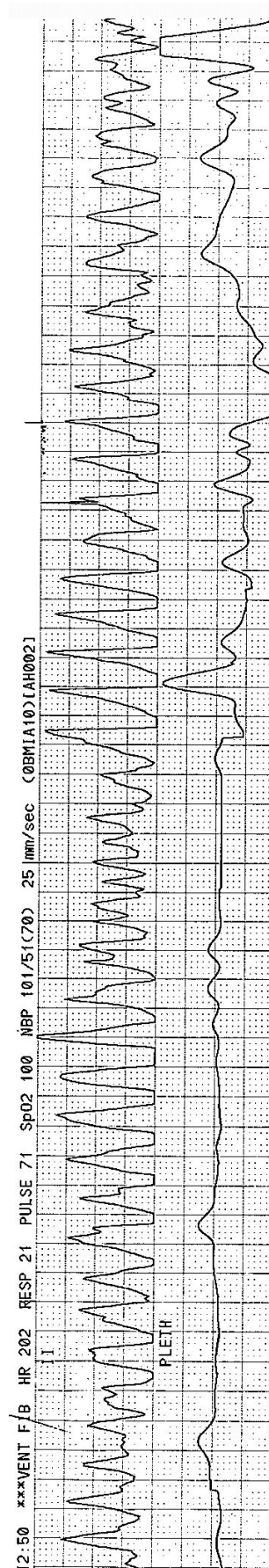
Question 5

12 lead ECG



Question 5

Rhythm strip



Question 7

			Reference range
Na	135	mmol/L	135 – 145
K	3.9	mmol/L	3.5 – 5.0
Cl	100	mmol/L	95 – 110
HCO ₃	27	mmol/L	20 – 31
Urea	4.1	mmol/L	2.7 – 7.8
Creatinine	62	mcmol/L	50 – 100
Anion gap	8	mmol/L	5 – 15
Total protein	76	g/L	60 – 80
Albumin	44	g/L	35 – 50
ALP	577	IU/L	40 – 115
ALT	972	IU/L	<65
GGT	226	IU/L	<55
Bilirubin	89.4	mcmol/L	<25
TOTAL			
Lipase	8523	IU/L	8 – 78